

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 AF-08 ARA-06

EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 /076 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3522

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBESSY PARIS

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FODAG

PARIS FOR US MISSION TO UNESCO

VIENNA FO US MISSIONS TO IAEA AND UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, UN

SUBJ: ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT OF GENEVA GROUP ROME

REF: ROME AIRGRAM A-063 (NOTAL)

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ADDENDUM DATED MARCH 23 TO ANNUAL REPORT
BY CO-CHAIRMAN OF GENEVA GROUP OF ROME, DATED FEBRUARY 16, 1977.

1. SINCE THE DESPATCH OF OUR REPORT OF 16 FEBRUARY, THE DIRECTOR-
GENERAL OF FAO HAS ANNOUNCED A PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET COST NG
\$206.8 MILLION, AN INCREASE IN CRUDE MONETARY TERMS OF 23
PER CENT OVER THE 1976-77 PWB. THIS INCREASE INCLUDES \$1.5 MILLION
FOR THE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMM, BRINGING IT TO \$20
MISSION AT 1976-77 COSTS. (THIS MAY, IN THE FINAL PWB PROPO ALS,
ATTRACT A PROPORTION OF COST INCREASE.) THE FIGURE OF \$20
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MILLION DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY CARRYOVER FROM THE TCP FOR THE
PREVIOUS BIENNIUM. THE BUDGET IS CALCULATED AT A NEW EXCHANGE
RATE OF 900 LIRE EQUALS ONE US DOLLAR, AS COMPARED WITH 670
LIRE EQUALS ONE US DOLLAR FOR THE CURRENT BUDGET.

2. THE TACTICS AND TIMING OF TH GENEVA GROUP (ROME) APPROACHES
TO THE DIRECTO-GENERAL ARE COMERD IN SECTIONS B.3(A) AND (C)

OF OUR REPORT OF 16 FEBRUARY. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL PLAYED AN INTENSIVE PERSONAL PART IN PREPARING THE PWB, INTERROGATING EACH DIVISIONAL DIRECTOR HIMSELF ON THE PROPOSALS. IT WAS THEREFORE RIGHT TO CONCENTRATE ON APPROACHES TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL HIMSELF RATHER THAN TO BUDGET OFFICERS. THE TIMING OF OUR APPROACHES WAS TO SOME EXTENT FORCED UPON THE GROUP BY THE TIMING OF THE FAO'S OWN PROGRAMME AND BUDGETARY PROCESSES. THE FIRST APPROACH CERTAINLY SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MADE AT THE RIGHT MOMENT FOR SUCH EFFECT AS WAS ACHIEVABLE.

3. THE GENEVA GROUP (ROME) DID NOT AT ANY TIME SUGGEST AN INDICATIVE TARGET FIGURE TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, FOR THE REASONS EXPLAINED IN OUR EARLIER REPORT. IT IS IN FACT DIFFICULT FOR A GROUP SUCH AS THE GENEVA GROUP (ROME) TO WORK OUT AN APPROPRIATE TARGET FIGURE IN THE ABSENCE OF PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA AGREED FOR THE SPECIALIZED AGENDAS AT GOVERNMENT LEVEL.

4. FOR THE LAST TWO BIENNIA, THE FAO GENERAL CONFERENCE HAS AGREED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUSPENSE ACCOUNT TO COVER THE RISK OF MONETARY EXCHANGE LOSSES. THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE PRECLUDED THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL FROM USING THIS ACCOUNT FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THAT PRESCRIBED. IT IS NOW ESTIMATED THAT BY THE END OF THE BIENNIAL THE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT, ESTABLISHED AT \$2 MILLION FOR THE CURRENT BIENNIAL, WILL HAVE REACHED A LEVEL OF \$15 MILLION. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL WISHES TO USE A MAJOR PROPORTION OF THIS AMOUNT AS A NUCLEUS FOR A NEW CAMPAIGN FUND HE WISHES TO ESTABLISH FOR REDUCING POST-HARVEST FOOD LOSSES. THIS BRINGS OUT A PROBLEM WHICH WILL BE OF GROWING CONCERN TO THE GENEVA GROUP GOVERNMENTS. THE RESOLUTION OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1975 CONFERENCE PROVIDES THAT THE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT SHALL BE CLOSED AT THE END OF THE BIENNIAL AND THE PROCEEDS RETURNED TO THE GENERAL ACCOUNT (AND HENCE BE REDISTRIBUTED AMONG THE MEMBERS). PROFIT ON EXCHANGE, INCLUDING ANY INTEREST ON THE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT, ARE A NATURAL SOURCE OF TEMPTATION TO HEADS OF AGENCIES WHEN THEY REACH SUCH DIMENSIONS. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770100-0826
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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